

State Institute For Colored Deaf, Blind and Orphans

Taft, Oklahoma

Established in 1910 by the State Legislature of Oklahoma.

Located in Muskogee County, Ten Miles West of Muskogee,
on the Midland Valley Railroad.

HIGH, HEALTHFUL AND SANITARY.

An institution for the training of the hand and mind of the
Unfortunate Colored Children of Oklahoma.

Wonderful Progress of the D. B. and O. School.

This institution was established eight years ago and placed under the supervision of S. Douglass Russell, who was founder of the school, and who served as its first superintendent until seven years ago, when Prof. J. R. Johnson, then assistant superintendent, was appointed to succeed him. When Prof. Johnson was appointed superintendent he immediately inaugurated a new system for the conduct and operation of the institution and following this system step by step has put this school at the head of the class among the institutions of its kind in this state.

The records show this school to be nearer self sustaining than any of the other state institutions in Oklahoma.

When the present superintendent took charge the school consisted of one main building and an old two-story frame building, which was used as a dormitory—one floor for girls and the other for boys.

This building is now being used as a manual training department and a new building has been erected for the boys' dormitory, while the girls' dormitory is in the main building. A fine new barn has also been erected to house a number of fine blooded cows, farm stock, etc., and in which to store the farm products raised by the school.

Hogs, chickens, ducks and turkeys are plentiful and the storehouse and cellars are well stocked with a variety of food supply for the pupils.

The dormitories are kept in the best of sanitary condition and are at all times clean and inviting.

A representative from the Tulsa Star recently visited this school and asked to be allowed to go through every department unannounced and without escort. This was readily granted by the superintendent and the newspaper man was turned loose to go as he pleased. After a thorough canvas and investigation of the grounds, buildings and a few heart-to-heart talks with boys and girls who are getting their training within these walls the newspaper man said to Supt. Johnson:

"Well, sir, you are doing a great work. I have found things much better here than I had expected." And so it seems to be with everyone who visits this school and conducts an honest investigation. It is nearly always better than they had expected.

The children here are well fed and given just enough exercise, consisting of both work and play, to keep them in healthy, hearty condition. Their interest is not being neglected by Supt. Johnson or any of his assistants.

There are now about 130 pupils in this institution. This number will probably be greatly increased before Spring opens.

The state officials think so well of Prof. Johnson's work as Superintendent of this school that they usually grant him every appropriation he asks for. The present value of the buildings and grounds is \$150,000 and the total appropriations for 1919-1920, which has been asked for by Supt. Johnson and recommended by the committee appointed to examine the budgets of the various state institutions will aggregate \$100,000.



J. R. Johnson, Superintendent.

FACULTY

C. G. Noble, Principal Grammar Dept., in Charge of Boys' Dormitory.

Monroe Ingram, Principal Mute Dept.

Miss Nettie C. Gray, Supervisor of Music and Instructor for the Blind.

Alexandria Morris, Band Master and Instructor 4th Grade.

Mrs. J. B. Ingram, Matron Boys' Dormitory.

Mrs. Alice Perkins, Matron Girls' Dormitory.

Stephen Russell, Engineering Dept.

Report of the Committee Appointed to Examine the Budgets of the Various Institutions.

Institute for Colored Deaf, Blind and Orphans, Taft, Oklahoma.—The Committee recommends that the legislature pass a law consolidating the Institution for Colored Incurable Girls and the Institution for Colored Incurable Boys with the School for the Colored Deaf, Blind and Orphans and that the three institutions be placed under one head, with appropriations for the support and maintenance of these schools as follows:

	1919-20	1920-21
For the Colored Blind and Deaf.....	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
For the Colored Incurable Boys.....	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
For the Colored Incurable Girls.....	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00

The Committee also recommends for power plant and remodeling of old building for the year 1919-20, \$10,000.00.

For the erection of a dormitory for the year 1919-20, \$25,000.00.

(Dormitory to be constructed with wards especially arranged for blind, deaf and orphan children.



The Faculty and Pupils
of This Institution



Wish A

Merry Christmas

For All, Likewise A

Happy New Year



We extend to all the Cheerest greetings of the season and a welcome invitation to visit us during the year of 1919.

J. R. JOHNSON,
Superintendent

